

Will the broadcast flag interfere with consumers ability to make copies of DTV content for their personal use, either on personal video recorders or removable media?

If it is not the intent of broadcasters to interfere with legitimate copying for personal use, then why have it in the first place? Even if it will not at the moment, the system could always be tweaked to make personal copying impossible.

Would the digital flag interfere with consumers ability to send DTV content across networks, such as home digital networks connecting digital set top boxes, digital recorders, digital servers and digital display devices? Digital video hobbyists should have the same rights as analog video hobbyists. Collectors often exchange copies of rare shows (episodes of the JUNGLE JIM TV series, for example) which are simply unavailable anywhere else. As long as someone has not made a pirate copy of something copyrighted, we should be able to exchange it by any means available.

Would the broadcast flag requirement limit consumers ability to use their existing electronic equipment (equipment not built to look for the flag) or make it difficult to use older components with new equipment that is compliant with the broadcast flag standard?

Again, if the intent of the broadcasters is not to interfere with our ability to engage in perfectly legal activity which they just don't happen to like, why have the flag in the first place?

Would a broadcast flag requirement limit the development of future equipment providing consumers with new options?

Again, then why have it in the first place? Besides, they cannot bind future management.

What will be the cost impact, if any, that a broadcast flag requirement would have on consumer electronics equipment?

This is something else to be considered. Will we have to buy prohibitively expensive equipment to enjoy a perfectly legal hobby?

Other Comments:

I understand concerns about video piracy. However, that is ALREADY against the law. If someone is engaged in video piracy, the effort should be to APPREHEND THE PIRATE, not to prevent innocent, law-abiding citizens from engaging in perfectly legal activity.